

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 28, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1699

Introduced by Assembly Member Kim

***(Coauthors: Assembly Members Travis Allen, Baker, Brough, Chávez,
Gipson, Lackey, Linder, Maienschein, Mayes, and Waldron)***

(Coauthors: Senators Anderson, Bates, and Huff)

January 25, 2016

An act to amend Sections 13700, 13700.5, 13701, and 13703 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to homeless youth, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1699, as amended, Kim. Homeless youth emergency service projects.

Existing law establishes the Homeless Youth and Exploitation Program, under which homeless youth emergency service projects are established in the Counties of Los Angeles, Santa Clara, San Diego, and the City and County of San Francisco through a grant program to eligible private, nonprofit agencies with a demonstrated record of success in the delivery of services to homeless youth. Under existing law, this program is administered by the Office of Emergency Services. Existing law requires each project to provide specified services, including food and access to overnight shelter, counseling to address immediate emotional crises and problems, and long-term stabilization planning.

This bill would require a homeless youth emergency service project to be established in the County of ~~Orange~~, *Orange* and would ~~authorize~~ *require* the Office of Emergency Services to establish additional projects

in other ~~counties~~, *counties* with a priority given to ~~underserved counties~~, *counties that lack existing services for runaway and homeless youth*. The bill would additionally require each project to provide transitional living ~~services~~, *services for designated homeless youth* for a period of up to 36 months, with access to education and employment assistance, independent living skill development, and family engagement and interventions. The bill would appropriate \$25,000,000 from the General Fund to the Office of Emergency Services to provide additional funding for these homeless youth emergency service projects.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 13700 of the Welfare and Institutions
2 Code is amended to read:
3 13700. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
4 following:
5 (1) There are homeless minors living on the streets of major
6 urban ~~centers~~ *centers, suburban communities, and in rural areas*
7 in this state without adequate food, shelter, health care, or financial
8 support.
9 (2) Many of these homeless youth in these urban centers come
10 from out-of-city or out-of-county locations.
11 (3) The homeless child, in many instances, has a history of
12 physical or sexual abuse at home, and of having been rejected or
13 forced out of the parental home.
14 (4) While living on the streets, these youth fall prey to drug
15 abuse, *human trafficking*, prostitution, and other illegal activities.
16 (5) Local public agencies are unable to provide these youth with
17 an adequate level or range of remedial services.
18 (6) These homeless minors are urgently in need of specialized
19 services to locate them, to assist them with their immediate survival
20 needs, and to address their long-term need to reunite with their
21 parents or find a suitable home.
22 (7) Two homeless youth emergency service pilot programs, one
23 in the City of Los Angeles, and one in the City and County of San
24 Francisco, have demonstrated the need for ongoing programs to
25 meet the needs of homeless minors and the effectiveness of these
26 programs in meeting these needs.

1 (8) While critical, immediate crisis intervention does not go far
2 enough to help these youth make a successful transition to
3 adulthood. Evidence supports transitional living programs as the
4 key driver of positive outcomes for homeless youth.

5 (b) The purpose of this chapter is therefore to maintain one
6 homeless youth emergency project in the County of Los Angeles
7 and one in the City and County of San Francisco, where the
8 problem is most acute, and to the extent funds are appropriated in
9 the Budget Act of 1991, to establish additional homeless youth
10 emergency service pilot projects pursuant to this chapter. It is the
11 further purpose of this chapter to examine the condition of
12 homeless youth in major urban areas of this state with populations
13 of 500,000 or more, as well as other urban, suburban, and rural
14 areas, and develop a profile of homeless youth in terms of
15 background and available services, in order to locate these youth,
16 to provide for their emergency survival needs, and to assist them
17 in reunification with their parents or in finding a suitable home.

18 SEC. 2. Section 13700.5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code
19 is amended to read:

20 13700.5. For purposes of this chapter, “office” means the Office
21 of Emergency Services.

22 SEC. 3. Section 13701 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is
23 amended to read:

24 13701. Each homeless youth project established under this
25 chapter shall provide services that shall include, but are not limited
26 to, all of the following:

27 (a) Food and access to an overnight shelter.

28 (b) Counseling to address immediate emotional crises or
29 problems.

30 (c) Outreach services to locate homeless youth and link them
31 with services, and drop-in facilities to make the services accessible
32 to the street population.

33 (d) Screening for basic health needs and referral to public and
34 private agencies for health care.

35 (e) Linkage to other services offered by public and private
36 agencies.

37 (f) Long-term stabilization planning so that the youth may be
38 returned to the parental home under circumstances favoring
39 long-term reunification with the family, or so that the youth can

1 be suitably placed in a situation outside the family when family
2 reunification is not possible.

3 (g) Followup services to ensure that the return to the family or
4 the placement outside the family is stable.

5 (h) Transitional living ~~services~~, *services for homeless youth 18*
6 *through 24 years of age, inclusive*, for a period of up to 36 months,
7 with access to education and employment assistance, independent
8 living skill development, and family engagement and interventions.

9 SEC. 4. Section 13703 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is
10 amended to read:

11 13703. (a) One homeless youth emergency service project
12 shall be established in the County of Los Angeles and one shall
13 be established in the City and County of San Francisco. One
14 homeless youth emergency service project shall also be established
15 in the County of San Diego, ~~one shall be established in the County~~
16 ~~of Santa Clara, and one shall be established in the County of~~
17 ~~Orange.~~ *Diego, and one shall be established in the County of Santa*
18 *Clara.* The office ~~may~~ shall establish additional homeless youth
19 emergency service projects in *the County of Orange and* other
20 counties, with a priority given to ~~underserved counties~~. *counties*
21 *that lack existing services for runaway and homeless youth.* Each
22 project may have one central location or may have more than one
23 location in the service area in order to serve effectively the area
24 population of homeless youth. Each project shall be operated by
25 an agency in accordance with the grant award agreement with the
26 office.

27 (b) (1) The office shall prepare and disseminate a request for
28 proposals for grantees under this chapter by February 15, 1986.
29 The office shall enter into grant award agreements, and the
30 operation of pilot projects shall begin, not later than June 1, 1986.
31 With respect to projects to be established in the County of San
32 Diego and the County of Santa Clara, the office shall prepare and
33 disseminate a request for proposals for grantees under this chapter
34 by March 31, 1992. The office shall enter into grant award
35 agreements and the operation of these projects shall begin not later
36 than July 1, 1992.

37 (2) *With respect to additional homeless youth emergency service*
38 *projects to be established pursuant to funding appropriated by the*
39 *act that added this paragraph, the office shall prepare and*
40 *disseminate requests for proposals not later than March 31, 2017.*

1 (c) An agency eligible to apply for funds under this chapter and
2 to operate a homeless youth emergency service project shall be a
3 private, nonprofit agency with a demonstrated record of success
4 in the delivery of services to homeless youth. The agency selected
5 for each project shall demonstrate the ability to provide each of
6 the services described in Section 13701, either directly or under
7 subcontract with a competent provider. Preference shall be given
8 to agencies that demonstrate a history of coordination with other
9 public and private agencies in the service region that provide
10 services to homeless youth. Preference shall also be given to
11 agencies that will involve a network of youth-serving agencies in
12 the delivery of services to homeless youth under this chapter.

13 SEC. 5. The sum of twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000)
14 is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Office of
15 Emergency Services to provide additional funding for homeless
16 youth emergency service projects established pursuant to Chapter
17 6 (commencing with Section 13700) of Part 3 of Division 9 of the
18 Welfare and Institutions Code.